

January 16, 1967

Dear Shirley and Harold - mostly both,

Great Scott, Harold, you scared the pants off me on the Capitol Records thing. It was BAD, that's for sure, but not that bad. True, Shirley, it was rough on you, but your lovely picture will help some.

Shirley, for Christ's sake, don't you realize that when they want someone to appear great, they use the words like "wise", "experienced" "objective". Personally, I would like to use a word on them..... (Unmentionable).

And when they wish - they meaning Schiller - want Mark, etc., then they go in for "wily", "scheming"....My personal comment: @#\$\$%&* (Unmentionable).

That damn Schiller... taped Penn.. then came to our house for cookies*, told Penn how much Penn's contribution meant to history. When he left, I said, "What a nice man." @#\$\$%&* (Unmentionable).

→ I think
now-

The Batman thing on Penn is almost funny, and I must write our oldest boy in Venezuela - have already dashed off a note to our youngest at the University of Michigan - to the effect that Daddy has had considerable kidding about the Batman pictures. BUT - the Batman pictures will remain until Penn III returns and chooses to take them down.

Harold, when you asked me about those kooky pictures, I really wondered how you knew. Yes, they are in our shop. But Lovable Shiller or whatever his @#\$\$%&* name is, put Penn, as I understnad it, in sort of f a fake picture.

The truth of the pictures is this, and I don't think Penn will ever defend himself on this count. Our two boys had these nutsy pictures. As you know, we are a pretty hard-kidding family. So when Penn was gone, the two boys got a ladder and put up the big thing on Batman and Bunny, or whatever his name is... We all thought it was funny. We still do.

We will never complain. Never explain. But what old Capitol Records \$\$\$\$\$\$\$ doesn't realize is: They caught the TWO HORN HONKS on their tape. We were in L. A. last night and Mort Sahl took it out of the record on tape.. and ran it. Bless his ever lovin' heart.....

* An expression we use for someone who has come to our home and accepted our hospitality.

only as Arnoni's
lecture —

Sylvia came down from Victoria (lecture thing) at the same time Penn and I were there. We stayed with Ray and Letha Marcus, were with Maggie, met Lillian for the first time, saw Bill again.

Everything was like old home week, except the Martins and the Weisbergs weren't there... Saw Lifton and wondered. Maybe he's OK, I wouldn't know...

Arnoni was the Real Guest, not us. He seems brilliant and wonderful to me. Comments?

So many fine things were said about you two.. And Harold, honey, since we seem to be in and out of so many airports, I have a big thing going for you...Any airport, I hit the book counter, "Do you have WHITEWASH?" "I'm not sure." "Of course you do. It's the greatest book on the assassination."

"I'll see."

"Please do... I'm doing some research."

"I don't seem to find it."

"I think we' sold out, miss."

"OK, Chicago always has ALL THE BIG BOOKS. I'll catch it there."

How about that, old buddy, old buddy? Works great. Penn was so tired coming home, and he teased me, said, "Why in hell don't you go in and ask for FORGIVE MY GRIEF?"

I said, "Because, Mrs. Jones, we don't stock it" would be their answer....Mort gave WHITEWASH II a big plug on his show with a close-up of your book.

Everybody cool it. A ten year old idiot could figure that record out. And I'm just that ten year old idiot.

Shirley, we have called every operator in Tulsa to try to talk to you tonight. WHEN, pray tell us, are you going to have a telephone?... Started to call Harold, but realized it was either 12:30 or 1:30 his time. Depending on what time it is.*

Now...children.....Chins up, all!

Thank Heavens, Harold, you warned us... Heavens to Betsy, if that was the WORST thing that had been ~~said~~ said about Penn we'd be lucky indeed...Lillian is beginning to come out from her state of shock in the loss of her husband, and she needs to be needed. Says - not one soul has used the material she has furnished them.

*What time is it? Dallas time, that is.

Love to Lillian and friendship
to you - h.g.

Take it slightly easy on Tom Bethell - our house guest.
He's OK, but ALWAYS send a carBox to me. Send it!
Louise A. Jones, Midlothian, Tex. Change Return!
ADDRESS. He's alright - but we always want a carbox.

could you write her and ask her something?
She's GREAT